COLUMBIA

SCENE FROM "MADAME SHERRY"

GRETCHEN SHERMAN

ACADEMY

WILLIAM COLLIER - BELASCO

WEEK PROMISES BROAD SCOPE OF ENTERTAINMENT.

Organization of Branch of Drama League Assured

By JULIA CHANDLES MANS.

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Miss Ethel M. Smith stands spensor for a movement begun last week to organise a Washington branch of the Drama League of America, in which project she has had pledged already the support of Judge Wendell P. Statifford, Mrs. O. L. Swormsteft, Judge Julian Mack, of the Commerce Court; Mr. Raiph Graves, Mrs. Otto P. Simon, Miss Lella Mechlin, of the Washington Pine Arts, Society; Capt. J. R. Proctor, Rev. John Van Schaick, Rev. E. S. Dunlap, Mr. George, F. Bowerman, of the Public Library; Mr. John La Gorce, Mr. Nelson B. Bell, and Mr. Gilbert, Grosvenor, of the Na-

Mr. John La Gorce, Mr. Nelson B. Rell, and Mr. Gilbert, Grosvenor, of the National Geographic Society.

The organization of the Drama League of America occurred in Chicago April E. 1910, with Mrs. A. Starr Best as the dominating spirit of the club, which washington theatergoers are to is 1918, with Mrs. A Starr Best as the dominating spirit of the club, which avowed its purpose of studying the drama and patronising only worthy plays. The idea made instant appeal, and a league that is nation-wide has grown out of the little Chicago project. In the incredible short time of two years, influencing a taste for better drams throughout the country; crowding out vicious plays by commending, and attending only worthy theatrical productions, and building up audiences for good plays through study classes, reading circles, and lectures.

As put forth clearly in a little book let issued by the Drama League on its crigin and growth, the idea of the organisation is the "banding together of all the forces already working for better drama. Realising that the blams for the present situation does not lie with the managers giving the people the kind of plays they are willing to support, the league sees the saving of the situation, the solution of the problem to be entirely in the hands of the audience. If therefore aims to create an organised audience which shall demand and support only worthy plays."

This purpose the league fulfills, not through censorship, but through a system of issuing bulletins giving information about new plays and appraising their value. This assituance rendered the these complete the theory of the production of "Our Wives" was made in demand and support only worthy plays."

This purpose the league fulfills, not through censorship, but through a system of issuing bulletins giving information about new plays and appraising their value. This assituance rendered the theory of the forces are always worth heater, large and production of "Our Wives" was made in demand. English managers in Germany. The original production of "Our Wives" was made in the friends with many important American the secured the speaking rights in competition with many important American the place will be predent in the nation with many important American the secured the speaking rights in competition with many import

As a rule accepted standards are used as a basis of criticism for determining what plays are of sufficient artistic merit to be bulletined.

Because of its practical and economic assistance to theater-goers, as well as its educational value to all classes of people, the Drama League has had a phenomenal growth, having now large branches in each of the five producing cities of America, with the exception of Washington, which is one of the most active cities of the nation in the presentation of the premieres of new plays, as a consequence of which more than usual interest is felt in the project to establish a branch of the Drama League of America here, which branch shall

WHAT THE WEEK OFFERS.

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ademy—"The Little Tender-

Poll's-Vaudeville Gayety-"The Galety Girla." -"Sters of Stageland."

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rule accepted standards are used entitled "Never Say Dia," of which he

THE WEEK'S PLAYBILLS

may be gleaned from an appouncement Mr. Joseph M. Gaites, who will produce the piece at the National this

"The plot concerns an extremely suc-cessful young man, a librettist, who be-lieves that he has made his success in life, through the elimination of sex. He doesn't hate women, he merely avoids them, because they suggest sex, and always take an unfair advantage of him through sex. To defeat feminine cunning, he has surrounded himself with bachelors only, and a servant-confidant, all surrounded and a servant-confidant. himself. One by one, they fall, each before a distinctly different type of weeman, whom each of them confide in him, is "of the sort God made, and then

destroyed the mold."
"Meanwhile, he has been lured by a lilting melody that floats incessantly through his windows from the rooms of a young composer, living above him. He determines to send for the composer to help him with the opera he is working upon. The composer appears. 'He' is a woman. The librettist is incensed at the trick nature has played on him. Finally, however, he finds that the very clever and beautiful young woman aparently has the same objection to men that he has to women. They agree to smother ex, to look upon each other as sexiess, call each other by their last names, and

redicaments that they get into, particularly when his erstwhile bachelor friends arrive with their wives, each insanely jealous of the other, together with the very serious complications that arise, form the background of one of the most humanly funny plays that it has been my pleasure to produce."

Unusual pains have been taken by Mr.

Gaites and Robert Milton, who staged the piece for him, in the selection of the cast that would properly delineate the fascinating characters in the piece.

National-Elmendorf Travel Talk.

"The Pacific Coast from Monterey to Mount Rainier" will be the subject of be delivered at the National Theater

at San Francisco, Mr. Elmer dorf will conduct his hearers to Monte-rey through the great fruit valley of Santa Clara to beautiful Del Monte, Santa Clara to beautiful Del Monte, thence to that segregated bit of Paradise—Yosemite Valley. After a long stop here, the journey is continued northward by Mount Shasta to Portland, where an interesting trip up the great Columbia River will be made, and thence on to Seattle, finally reaching Mount Rainier, the most beautiful if not the localization of the Light States. oftiest mountain in the United States.

The concluding lecture in the series,
"Yellowstone Park," will be given next

Belasco-"Never Say Die."

William Collier will be seen in a ne edy entitled "Never Say Die," at the clasco Theater this week. The play is Belasco Theater this week. The play is in three acts, the scenes of which are laid in London at the present time. It is said to be a typical Collier entertainment. W. H. Post and William Collier are the authors. The presentation is made under the direction of Lew Fields. The play has at the center a novel idea. London specialists tell a young American millionaire, William Collier, that he has only three weeks to live. A young can millionaire, William Collier, that he has only three weeks to live. A young artist, his old friend, cannot marry a fine girl of high family because he has no money and her mother loses their estate. The American persuades the girl to wed him without telling anybody, not even her mother, and go at once to Russas for a twelvementh, and the artist to go to Italy to study for a year at the millionaire's expense. In this way the girl is to get his fortune, with which to take care of her mother and to enable the artist to marry her upon his return, starred in nur

National—"Our Wives."

Some ides of the novelty of "Our vives" and its delightful fun-making itons can well be imagined.

Supporting the star, a cast of great ex-cellence will be in evidence, headed by Miss Paula Marr, of this city, in the leading feminine role, and includes Grant Stewart, Charles Dow Clark, Frederick Roland, Herbert Ayling, Nicholas Judels, John Clulow, John Adams, Wil-iam Collier, jr., Thomas McGrath, James Sheeran, Emily Fitzroy, and Eilen

Columbia-"Madame Sherry."

Because every one all over the country is humming, singing, or whistling some the impression is current in some ters that the production's charm is in greater part musical. Report says that the mirth-provoking qualities of the play

are no less engaging than its score. The love of a man fer a maid under odd a circumstances is the reigning spell of the production.

Some idea of the fun developed may perhaps be gleaned by a summary of the characters of the play which, beside the lovers, include an Italian house janitor, his Irish wife, a lively fun-loving actress, a New York man about town, an amusingly whimsical uncle of the

popularity.

The terpsichorean novelties introduc-ing "The Birth of Passion," the famous "Danger Dance," and others, are said

Columbia-Zimballat.

Efrem Zimballst will be presented in corcert at the Columbia Theater Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock by T. Arthur Smith, who has been striving for a Washington date for this, Russia's supreme, master of the violin ever since the furore he occasioned here last Janthe furore he occasioned here last Jan-uary when he appeared as the soloist with the Philinarmonic Society of New York. Then it was recognized that Zim-balist's technical skill was remarkable That he was subtle without affectation; that he commanded by beauty rather than by power, For the coming concert he has selected a programme of com-manding merit which includes two notable numbers by the artist himself. In its entirety it is as follows: numbers by the artist hims entirety it is as follows:

an amusingly whimsical uncle of the maid in love, and others, including the pupils of a dancing school and the guests of a yachting party. The humor, melody color, and spirit

excellence.

The extra added imported feature will be the famous English Willis family from the Loudon Collseum, where their instrumental playing of classical and popular selections was said to be a revelation.

Another number will be Tom Dingle and the Emeralda Sisters in a terpsichorean novelty interlarded with catchy songs.

The well-known farceurs, Ruby Raymond and Bobby Heath, will offer their light and beauty with the Searches. The well-known farceurs, Ruby Raymond and Bobby Heath, will offer their
light and breesy skit, "At the Seashore."
Miss Phina and her pickaninnies will give
a Dixieland frolic. The great Ergotti and
his Lilliputians will present the European
grotesque Risley act. Gertrude Holmes
and Robert Buchanan will give their novelty, "The Girl of 1847." Other entertaining inclusions will be the pipe organ recitals at 1:20, 7:20, and intermissions, and
the Animated Weekly photoplane pictures the Animated Weekly photoplane pictures of recent international events.

is Hardeen, the handcuff king, who has an international reputation founded upon his ability to release himself from every known variety of handcuff, straitat Poli's he will not only demonstrate the case with which he can spring the boits of all sorts of handcuffs, but he will also perform his remarkable milk-can feat. He allows a committee from the audience to inspect an enormous corrugated from milk can, which is filled with water. Hardeen then crouches down in this milk can and allows the committee to pour in water until it covers his entire body and head. The lid is then fastened down with many padlocks and the whole is wheeled into the cabinet, which the committee surrounds cabinet, which the committee surrounds in order to prevent the assistance of a confederate, In less than two minutes Hardeen emerges, and when the locks are examined they are found to be in-

an amusingly whimsical uncle of the maid in love, and others, including the pupils of a dancing school and the guests of a yachting party.

The humor, melody color, and spirit of the production is beyond comparison. The cast, made up of a great many well known favorites, not only in New York, but throughout the country, includes Fio Irwin, Emsy Alton, Virginia Foltx, Nan and book by Raymond W. Peck, she Tasker, William Cameron, Walter Moore, George Schiller, Harry Elk, and A. La under the popular song, and the one that runs through the entire performance, "Every Little Movement Has a Meaning ards, and has a company of exceptional of its Own," has never been equaled for reconstruction. Trio, two men and a girl, in a pleasing singing act; the Makarenko Duo, spectacular Russian dancers, the feminine star of the pair revealing a wardrobe of unusual beauty and variety; the Williams brothers, singers and dancers, and Mile. Espey, the lithely graceful aerial equilibrist, who finds herself at home on the slack wire.

and company are scheduled for a patriotic scenic song sketch "In the Days of 'di." with special stage settings, including scenery local to the National Soldiers' Home at Washington, and the Three Van Dillions, two girls and a boy, in a mark-Pell's—Vaudeville.

The stellar feature at Poll's this week is Hardeen, the handcuff king, who has an international reputation founded upon his ability to release himself from every known variety of handcuff, straitlacket, and prison cell bolt. In his act at Poll's he will not only demonstrate.

Academy-"The Little Tenderfoot." The successful plays of all times depict The successful plays of all times depict true and actual conditions of the day. Roy Foster, in writing and Klimt and Gazzolo, in producing "The Lattle Tenderfoot" had this in mind and offer what may be termed "The last word in modern play building" in this plece, which will be the attraction this week at the Academy.

Academy.

"The Little Tenderfoot" is a child brought into this world under conditions over which he had no control, and our present-day social customs point a thorny path for those tender little feet to tread, and the cruel selfashness of the world makes martyrs and victims of this boy and his little mother. Aside from the intense dramatic story, and high

BLANCHE BAIRD-LYCEUM

moral lesson, the play abounds with modern high-class comedy.

It is a brand-new Western drama, a clean, dramatic story of life on the plains without the blood-thirsty stunts which have been associated in the minds

LULU GLASER

CHASE'S

A dash of Irish humor and song, a laughable comedy, a musical number of classic excellence, a patriotic scenic sketch of the civil war, and a unique offering featuring marksmanship are some of the promised features in the varied bill to be offered at the Cosmos this week.

The Three Musical Maynette Girls will be among the leaders, with an offering of song and instrumental selections on the violin, flute, and plane. Jere McAuliffe and company are scheduled for a patriotic scenic song sketch "In the Days of "fi," a place. The sheriff from a distant county, appears and the tangle is made more complex when it is learned that he is searching for Laurie, who is wanted on a charge of murder. To tell more of the story would be to destroy much of the interest for the prospective auditor.

& Gayety-"The Galety Girls."

The clever German comedian, Gus Fay ety Girls," who come to the Gayety this ek, presenting two one-act musica ces, "One Night in Paris" and "The st Cure." Mr. Fay has as his associate funmaker Billy Armstrong, Knowles and Powers, Hastings and Wil-sen, and Richard Mack, while the fem-inine cast is headed by the prima donna comedienne, Clara Douglas Rackett. In the opening farce, which is supposed to take place at the Cafe De America, in Paris, Mr. Fay is seen as Otto Gutz, a millionaire sausage manufacturer, who has come to Paris to enjoy his fortune. has come to Paris to enjoy his fortune. Here he meets Mile. Fontaine, queen of the cabarets (Miss Rackett), who in one night shows Otto so many of the gayeties of the gayest city that he seeks a rest cure the following morning, in Dr. Cutlet's sanatorium. Here he is followed by the indefatigable Mile. Fontaine and the fun continues while Otto is surrounded by winsome nurses who dance and sing much to his distraction and to the delay of the cure.

An important feature of the "Galety"

Girls'" entertainment is the olio which includes the dancing specialty of Ben Bernard; Hastings and Wilson, in an extravagant bit of comedy called "The Lunatics," and Farley and Butler, in their famous comedy feature of "The

NATIONAL

PAMELA GAYTHORNE

their famous comedy feature of Traveling Salesmen. Jacobs and Jermon have provided a great assortment of attractive costumes for the singing chorus and the scenic in-vestiture is said to be unusually elab-

Casino-Vaudeville.

Classic in design and sensationally ef-fective is said to be the Burma barefoot lance of Delia Stacey, which was sugdance of Delia Stacey, which was sus-gested by and furnishes the startling climax to the melodic presentation of Rudyard Kipling's famous poem, "On the Road to Mandelay," announced as the feature extragdinary of the Casino bill

feature extragdinary of the Casino bill for this week. Miss Stacey, who was for five seasons leading woman for James T. Powers, will be assisted in the act by Nat K. Cafferty, a talented singer, and the production is heralded as one of gorgeous costumes and Oriental scenic splendor.

Other features of the unusual bill include Ruth Wright, a dainty singer of delightful songs; Dave Willington, in novel feats of burlescae jugglery; Young and Manning, in a blackface Southern plantation romance, "A Day in Dixie;" Russ Forth and Raiph Earle, in a merry mixture of music and nonsense, and the Calles bestdered the seasons leading woman for James T. Powers, will be assisted in the such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is one of life's most pleasant happenings, and it is such a feeling that is inspired is one of life's most pleasant happenings. Cullen brothers, in an offering of the whirlwind variety which is said to be unique and enjoyable. The motion pictures are promised to be new and inter-

Melody, mirth, comedy, and beauty are the chief ingredients of the offering

are the chief ingredients of the offering of the "Stars of Stageland." which is registered to make its headquarters at the Lyceum this week.

The various electrical effects are absolutely original, and protected by law. The costumes are of a dazzling splendor, while the scenic display is elaborate in every detail, furnishing a charming background to the two-act mustical combackground to the two-act musical com edy—and the excellent vaudeville spe-cialities which are interwoven in the offering of the "Stars of Stagelend." Blanch Baird, heading her own show, Blanch Baird, heading her own show, has the distinct personality and magnetism of a singing comedienne. Miss Baird accompanied a friend one day to the booking offices of a New York booking firm, and after the friend was fixed for the churus, she herself was offered a "show girl" position. Miss Baird, at that time, had never seen a make-up box or appeared on the stage, but with the poise that makes her work unique, she accepted the offer, and was launched on a successful career in vaudeville and musical comedy, and now heads her own organization, "The Stars of Stageland." The Country Store" will be the extra attraction on Friday night, when several new features will be introduced.

News of the Local Theaters

and the stage felk who vill be seen in this city either this ek or in the very near futur

John Findlay, the well-known acter comedian in "Our Wives," which comes to the National this week, has been in this country since 1881. He made his first appearance in London in 1873 at

Arthur R. Ryan, who has been by Henry W. Savage to Richard Bennett, was in the city during the past week arranging for the forthcoming engagement at the Columbia Theater of "The Stronger Claim."

"The Land of the Dykes," the ne Sam Chip-Mary Marble Hollandess con edy, was written by Herbert Hall Wi-slow, with music and lyrics by Albe Von Tilzer, the composer of popular ba

Manager Peck announces that on elec-tion night he has arranged for a free cabaret entertainment to be presented by the members of the "Ginger Giris" company. This will follow immediately the regular buriesque show, and will run until 1 a. m. Special leased wire service will bring news of the election returns to the stage of the Gayety, and the news bulletins will be read at frequent inter-rals during the agenting.

election night. The first entertain will begin at 7:30, and the second about 5:45. During the intermissions between acts the election returns will be read to the audience, the news being received by

Paula Marr has created the leading feminine role with William Collier in "A Lucky Star," "Til Be Hanged if I Do," "Take My Advice," and the most recent Collier success, "Never Say Die," which will be seen at the Belasco this week.

Louis Francis Brown, business man ager for the Burton Holmes travelogues. will arrive in the city this week to ar-range for the Washington season, which opens at the Columbia Theater Novem-

force at work during the past week effecting the delivery of season tickets to subscribers for the orchestral concerts of the New York Philharmonic Society, the first of which is scheduled for No-vember 26, at the National. Frank Mandel, one of the adapters of

T. Arthur Smith has had his office

"Our Wives," has had plays accepted this fall by David Belasco, Charles Froh-man, and John Cort. "Our Wives" is his first play to be produced.

It is expected that many of the packing crews in Washington department stores will challenge Hardeen to a test of skill during this week at Poll's. Hardeen will endeavor to escape from any packing case which may be constructed and brought to the theater, in which he will permit himself to be inclosed by the nackers.

Frederic Shipman, who will bring Frances Alda to the Columbia Theater November 23, is also directing the con-cert tours of Lillian Nordica, Mary Hal-lcck, and David Bispham.

La Belle Heiene is one of the pr features of the aggregation gathered together by Manager Dunn, of the Btars of Stageland," which opens its engage-ment at the Lyosum this week. She is presenting the Parisian sensation, "Es-caped from the Harem."

There are nine songs in the new musical comedy, "In Search of a Past,"
which Felix and Caire are now giving
ir vaudeville. Their "Silhoutte Dance"
has proven a sensational success, it is

Gwendolyn Piers, who comes here in 'Our Wives," is a protege of Julia Marlowe, and it was at her suggestion that she left a New York convent, where she was studying, and joined her com-

William Collier, aside from being a star and a playwright, is the lessee of the William Collier Comedy Theater, New York, one of the most popular high-priced playhouses of the metropolis. It was here that "Bunty Pulls the Strings" scored its brilliant success.

One of the interesting specialties in the olio at the Gayety this week will be Gus Fay's original skit called "The Last

"I do not want to be known as a onepart actor only," declared David Higgins recently, and true to his confession of faith, he has laid aside "His Last Dol-ier," in which he might have appeared profitably for the remainder of his days n the stage. He has chosen a new ar clever comedy vehicle. "Mary Kelly's iseaux," which is to have its Washing-ton premiere at Poll's this week.

The return of an old and dear friend

estate of 400 acres outside Stamford, Conn. overlooking the sound and stretching into the beautiful, low foothills. There is a good deal of sound philosophy behind the purchase.
"In the future," he explains, "I'm go-

ing to divide my season as nearly as I can into halves six months behind the footlights and six months in the coun-

"For an actor, it is a happy con tion. More than any other man, per-haps, he needs the out-of-door life, for there is no occupation that can be so nerve wearing as that of an earnest

There is never a day that Mr. Kolker misses a five-mile walk, and he is one of the few actors who rises as early in the morning as a business man. He is one who has found that it doesn't pay to be a temperamental all-hours-of-the-